May 2, 2018 (Wednesday)

Dick Sears Chair
Vermont Committee on Judiciary
Room 1
Vermont State House
115 State House
Montpelier, VT 05633-5301

RE: H-143 (Automobile insurance requirements and transportation network companies)

Sir,

I have mentioned to numerous legislators in the house that H-143 is actually a back-door, statewide licensing scheme for two well-known taxi-cab companies Uber and Lyft. And all at the expense of local independent taxicab operators!

After much reflection on this bill, and with numerous discussions with other cabdrivers, I have come to the conclusion that not only is H-143 a statewide scheme, it is also an <u>interstate licensing scheme</u>.

Here is how this scheme works;

Uber drivers, some with serious criminal backgrounds, are encouraged and permitted to enter Vermont without Vermont issued license plates, to engage in business, providing their vehicles meet our inspection standards. All is needed is a "scribbled" note indicating the vehicle meets our inspection standards. Eighthundred Uber drivers improperly vetted, entering Bennington? Ummm. . .

Out-of-state Uber drivers are "popping-up" late at night in Burlington, Rutland and South Burlington - apart from your very own Bennington.

As H-143 will be presented to your colleagues on the Senate floor this morning you may wish to solicit their opinions on this interstate taxicab bill/scheme.

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